GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3237
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Subsidy on Diesel, Seeds and Fertilizers
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to provide financial assistance including subsidy on diesel, seeds and fertilizers to reduce the impact of drought;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to give work for 150 days instead of 100 days under MNREGA in such drought affected areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated by the Government to various States in this regard during the last one year and the current year, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (b): The State Governments undertake necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought, with the funds available in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government. Assistance to farmers is provided as per guidelines on the items and norms of assistance from SDRF/ NDRF dated 8th April, 2015 of Ministry of Home Affairs available at ndmindia.nic.in. Subsidy on diesel and seeds was provided during the Financial Years 2014-15 and 2015-16 in drought affected areas.

Government of India is also implementing yield based Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) which has replaced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) & Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS), from Kharif 2016 season. Comprehensive risk insurance is provided under PMFBY to cover yield loss due to non-preventable risks including drought. On the other hand, Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (WBCIS) provides insurance protection to the farmers against adverse weather incidence, such as deficit and excess rainfall, high or low temperature, humidity etc. which are deemed to impact adversely the crop production.

Contdâ€¦2/-

(c) & (d): The Ministry of Rural development provides 50 days of additional employment in notified areas of drought affected States under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). Provision of Additional employment of 50 days over and above 100 days per household under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) made in the notified drought affected areas of the States during 2015-16 and 2016-17 (as on 29.11.2016) is at Annexure-I.

MGNREGA is a demand driven wage employment programme, hence no State/Union Territory- wise allocation of fund is made. Funds for programme implementation are released to the States including drought affected States as per the agreed to Labour Budget and shelf of projects. Funds released under MGNREGS to notified drought affected States during 2015-16 and 2016-17 (As on 29.11.2016) is at Annexure-II.